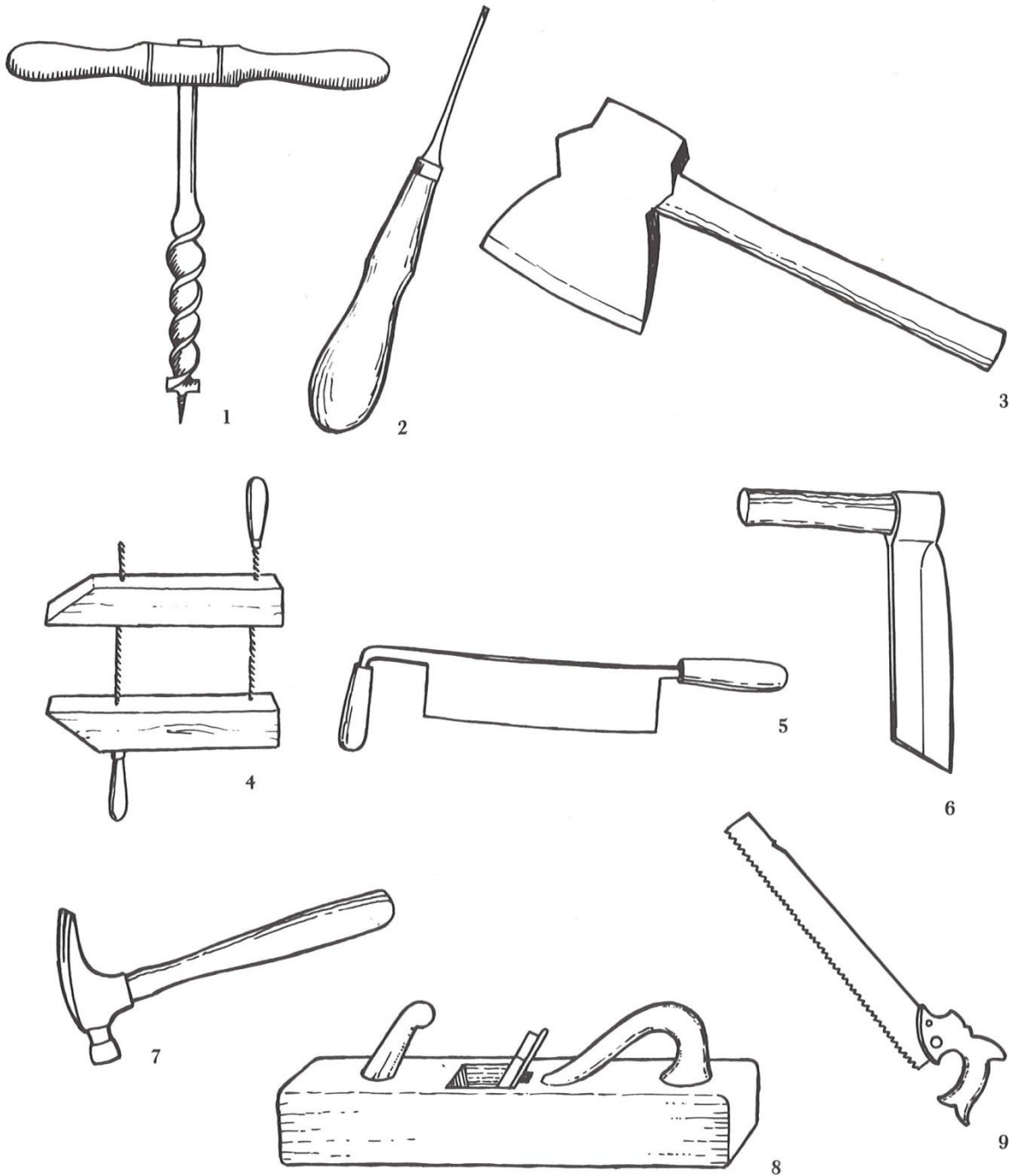


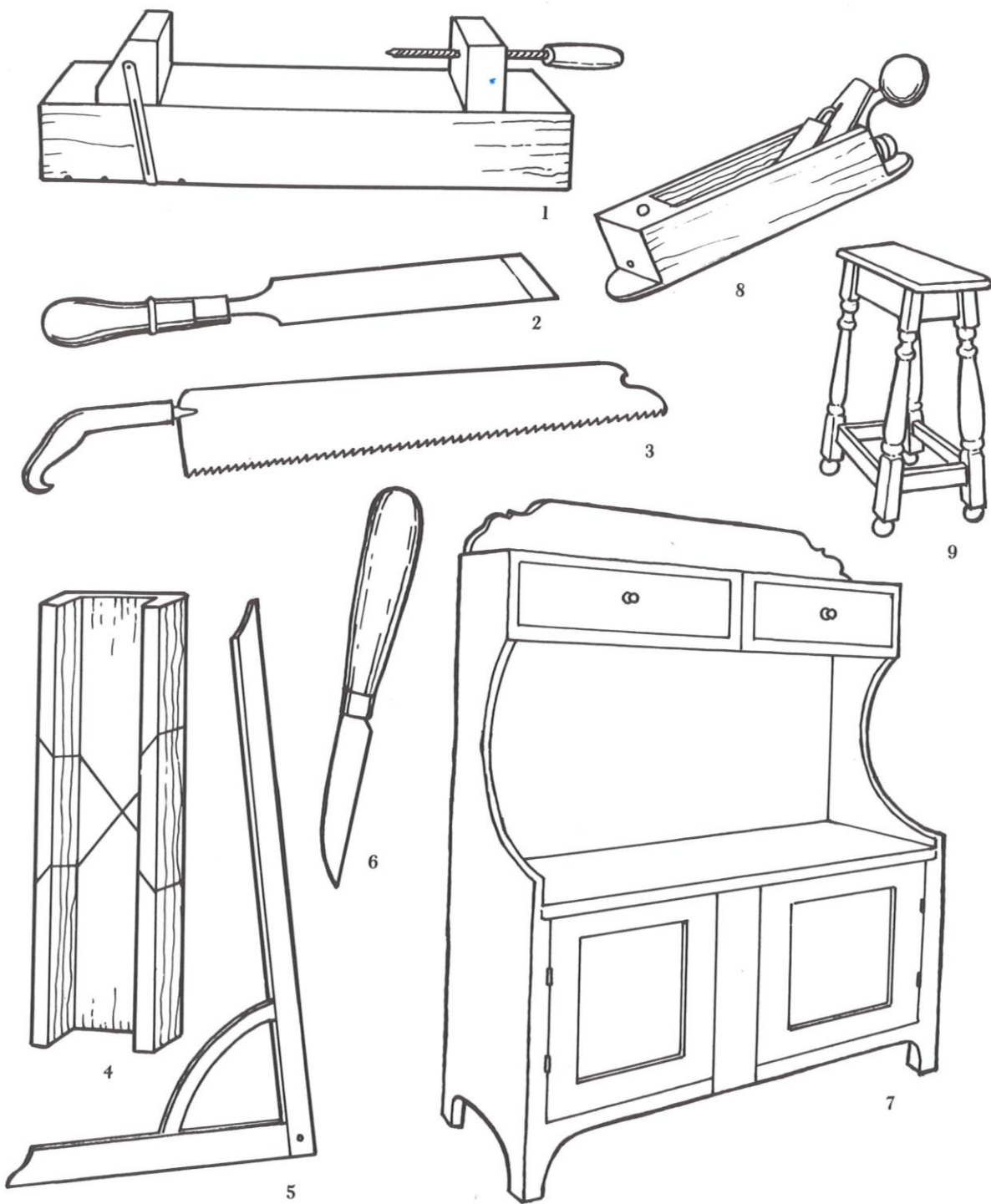


**Carpenters**



**1. CARPENTERS, 1655.** The indispensability of the carpenter is demonstrated by the fact that carpenters accompanied every expedition to the New World. Early colonial carpenters performed a broad range of functions, from the rough work of felling trees and hewing timber to the precise work of cabinet and furniture making. Urban carpentry became rapidly more specialized into trades such as rough carpentry, joinery, wood turning, carving, coffinmaking, coopering, cabinetmaking, looking-glass making, picture framing and wagonmaking. The carpenter on the left is finishing a panel with a block plane, while the man on the right is squaring a timber with a broad axe.

*Above:* 1. nut auger 2. brad awl 3. broad axe 4. hand screw clamp 5. chamfer knife 6. froe (for splitting a piece of timber into boards) 7. framing hammer 8. carpenter's plane (1770) 9. bench saw.

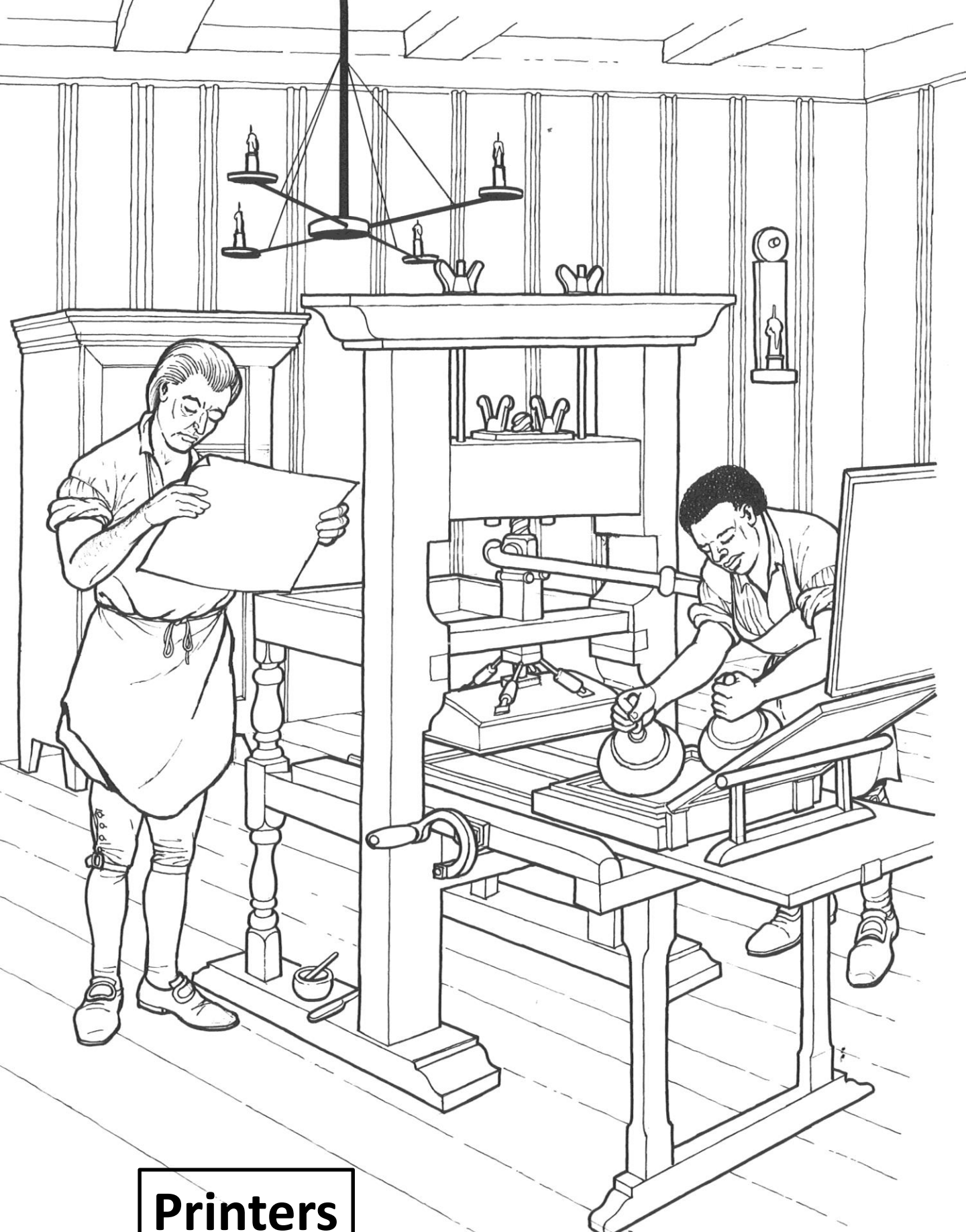


**4. CABINETMAKERS, 1760.** Cabinetmakers, or joiners as they were often called, were the most highly-skilled craftsmen in the carpentry trades. In 1700 an estimated 40% of the furniture bought in the colonies was made in England. By midcentury the amount of imported furniture had dwindled to an insignificant percentage. Indeed, cabinetmaking centers such as Philadelphia and Rhode Island were soon exporting large quantities of furniture. Many colonial joiners copied English styles (like that of Thomas Chippendale), but by the time of the Revolutionary War, distinctive American styles were emerging. The apprentice at the right of the picture is smoothing a tabletop with a block plane.

*Above:* 1. cabinetmaker's wooden clamp 2. forming chisel 3. open handsaw (1730) 4. miter box 5. T-square (1750) 6. sloyd knife (for scoring boards) 7. oak water bench (1850) 8. cabinetmaker's block plane 9. pine stool (1830).

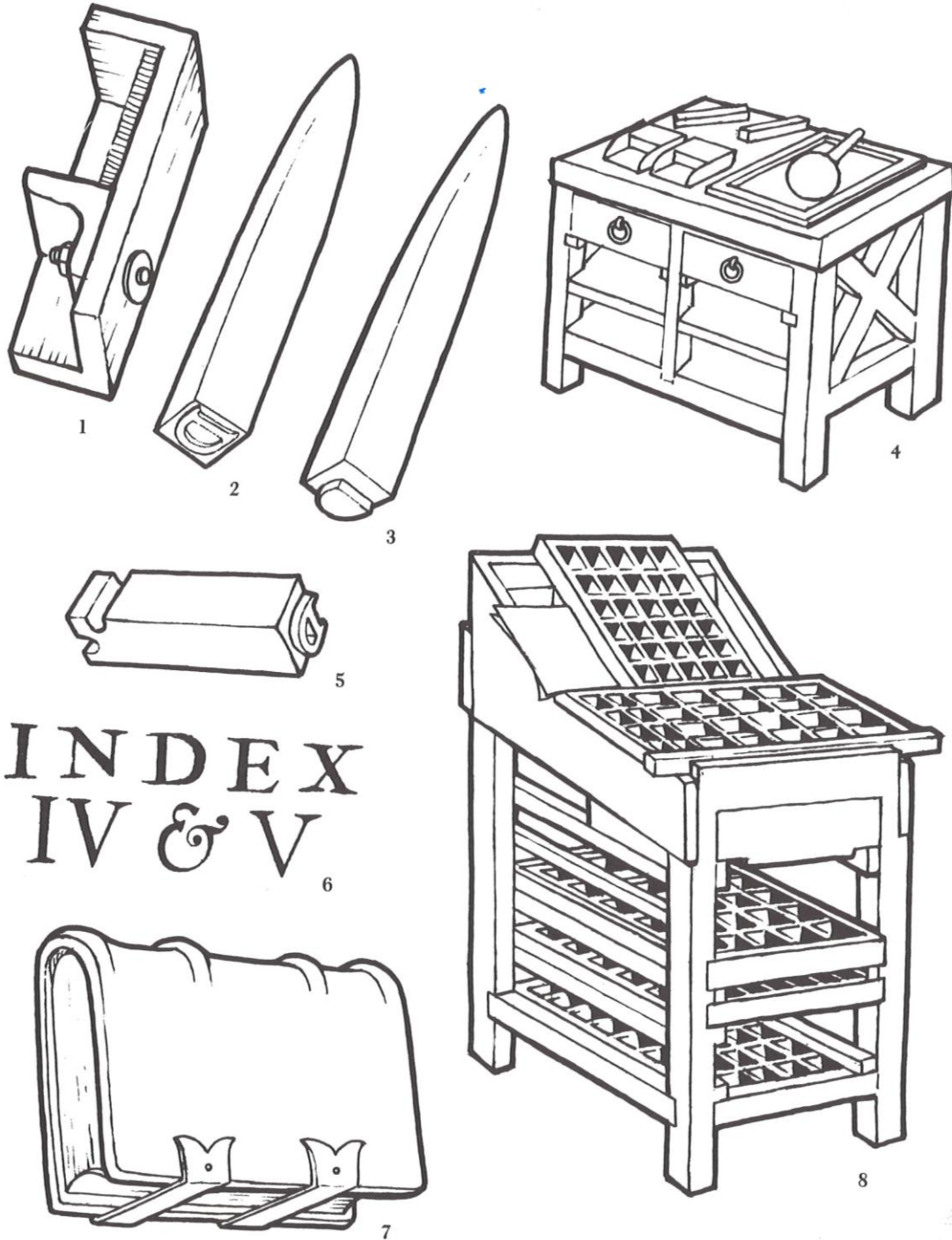


**Cabinetmakers**



**Printers**





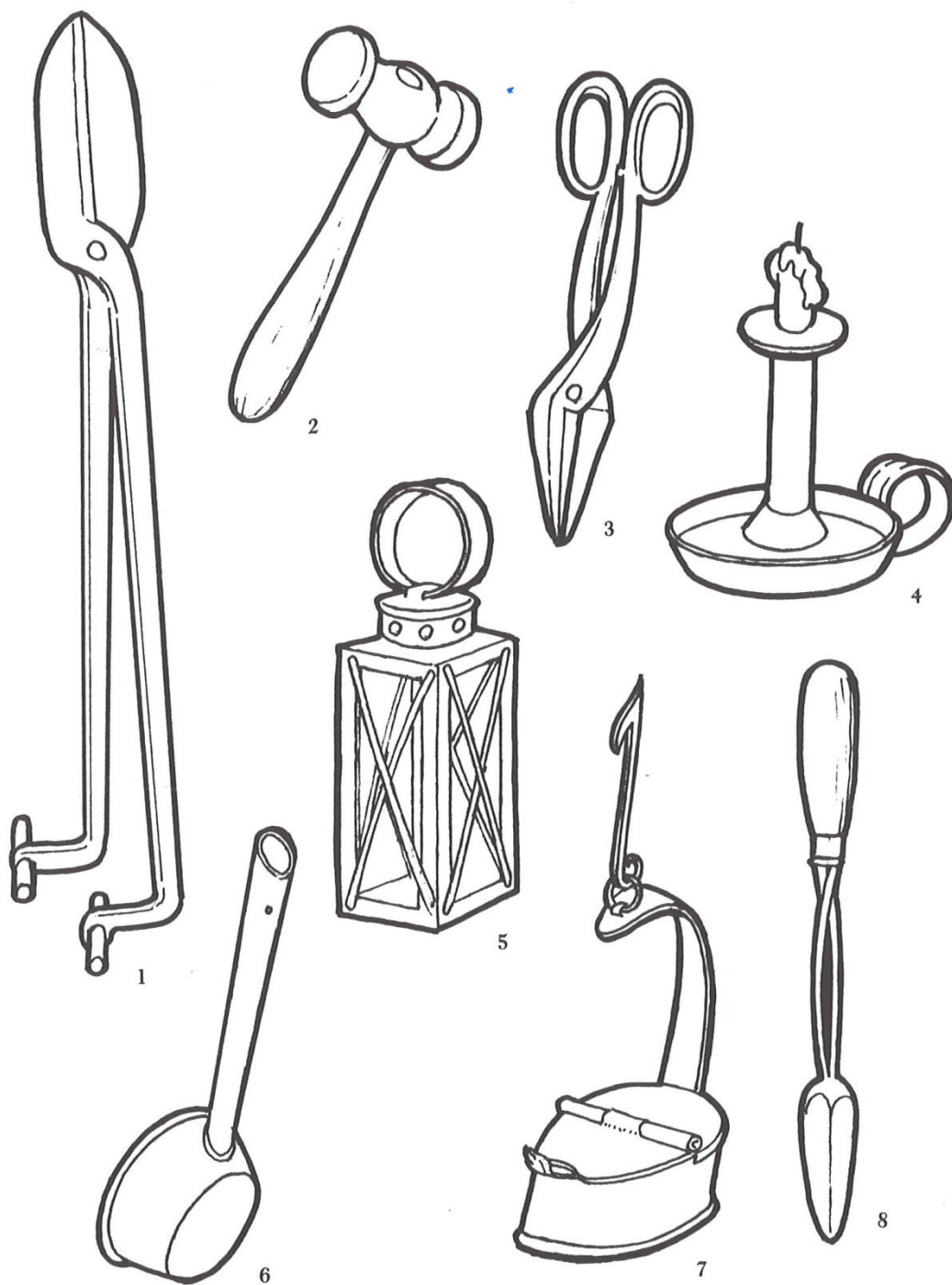
# INDEX IV & V

**10. PRINTERS, 1775.** The first book printed in the colonies was published at Harvard College in 1640; the first newspaper, in Boston in 1690. Like Benjamin Franklin, the colonial printer not only printed a newspaper, but also acted as its publisher and editor. In addition to printing books and newspapers, the printer supplied his community with business papers, legal forms and handbills, and frequently acted as postmaster. The apprentice seen on the right is inking type on a stone slab preparatory to a press run. The master printer on the left is inspecting a proof sheet.

*Above:* 1. composing stick 2. punch 3. counterpunch 4. imposing stone 5. cast type 6. type specimen (1723) 7. leather-bound book with brass catches (1660) 8. compositor's desk.



**Whitesmiths**



**11. WHITESMITH, 1776.** Colonial tinsmithing, called whitesmithing, got its start in the 1730s in Berlin, Connecticut, when Irish immigrants began importing sheet tin from England. This material was really thin sheet iron, plated with tin to prevent rust. By beating out their own kitchen utensils using wooden mallets, these whitesmiths could manufacture a product that easily undersold the spoons, cups, pots and pans that were imported from England. Berlin remained the center of the tin industry until the mid-19th century. Whitesmithing gave rise to another group of tradesmen who became a common sight in early America: itinerant tin peddlers. The smith in this picture is smoothing a cylinder with a wooden mallet on an iron former.

*Above:* 1. anchored shears 2. flattening hammer 3. tin snips 4. tin candlestick (1760) 5. tin lantern (1775) 6. tin dipper 7. tin Betty lamp (1790) 8. soldering iron.



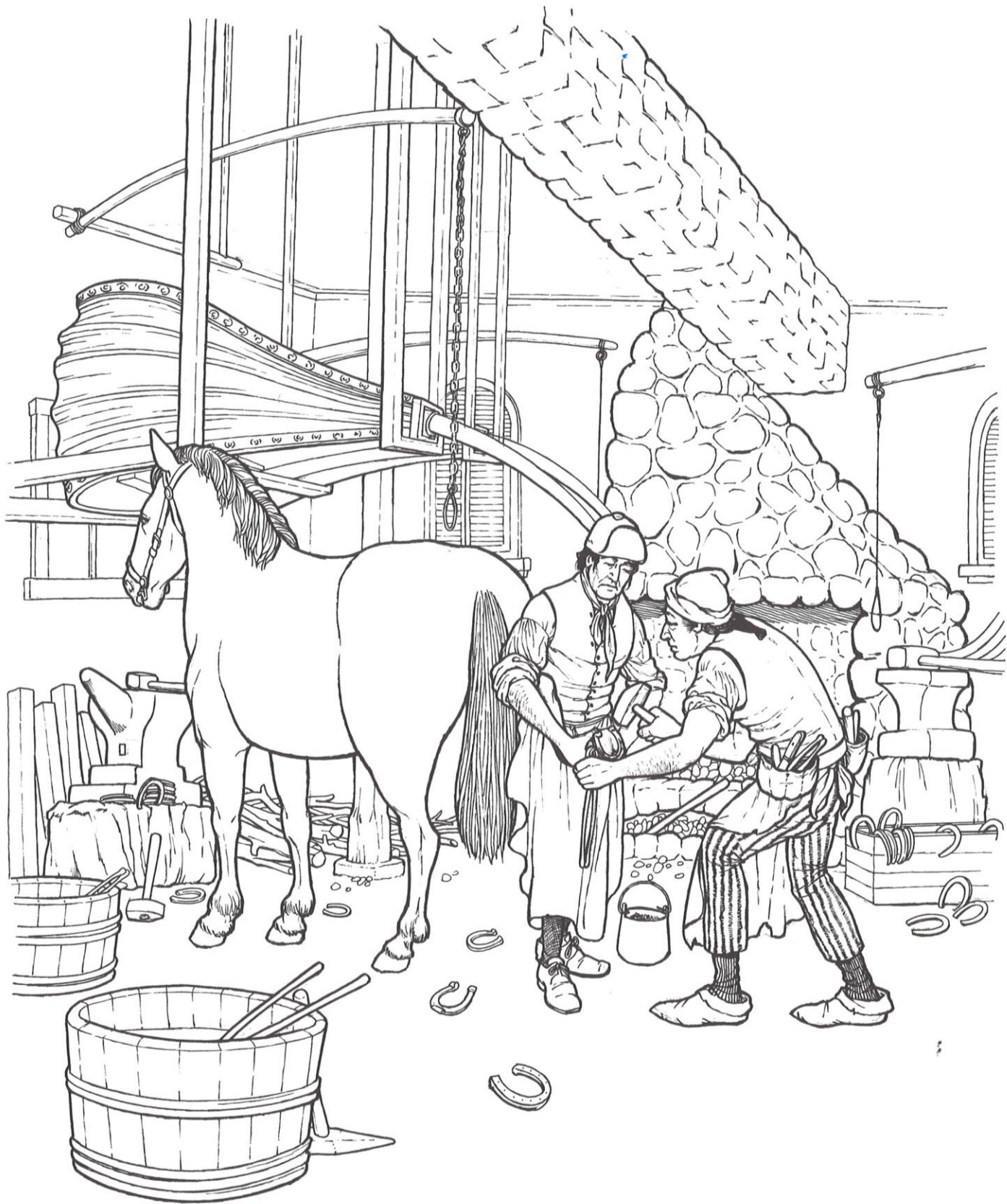


**Shoemakers**



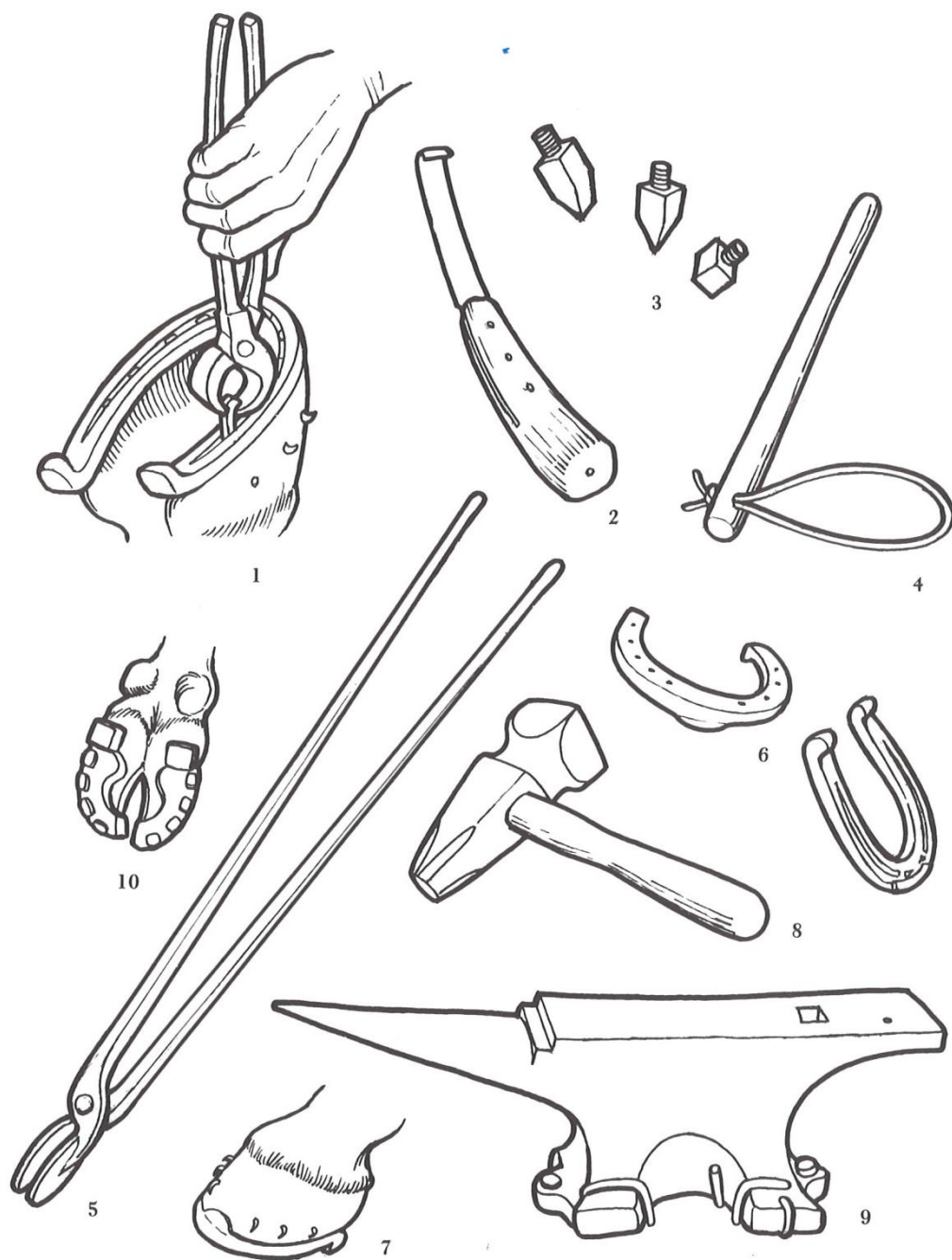
**12. SHOEMAKER, 1780.** The first shoemaker, or cordwainer, in the American colonies was probably Thomas Beard, who arrived at Plymouth, Massachusetts aboard the *Mayflower* in 1629. Although the wealthiest colonists often imported their boots from England, shoemaking was still a thriving trade. The cordwainer's shop was usually a small one, with little in the way of machinery. Seen here is a craftsman at his bench, with wooden lasts, used for forming shoes, arranged on the wall behind him.

*Above:* 1. sole knife 2. shoemaker's hammer 3. lady's shoe (1800) 4. stretcher pliers 5. boot last 6. awls 7. burnisher 8. man's buckled shoe (1776) 9. riding boots (1776) 10. man's laced shoe (1780).



**Farriers**





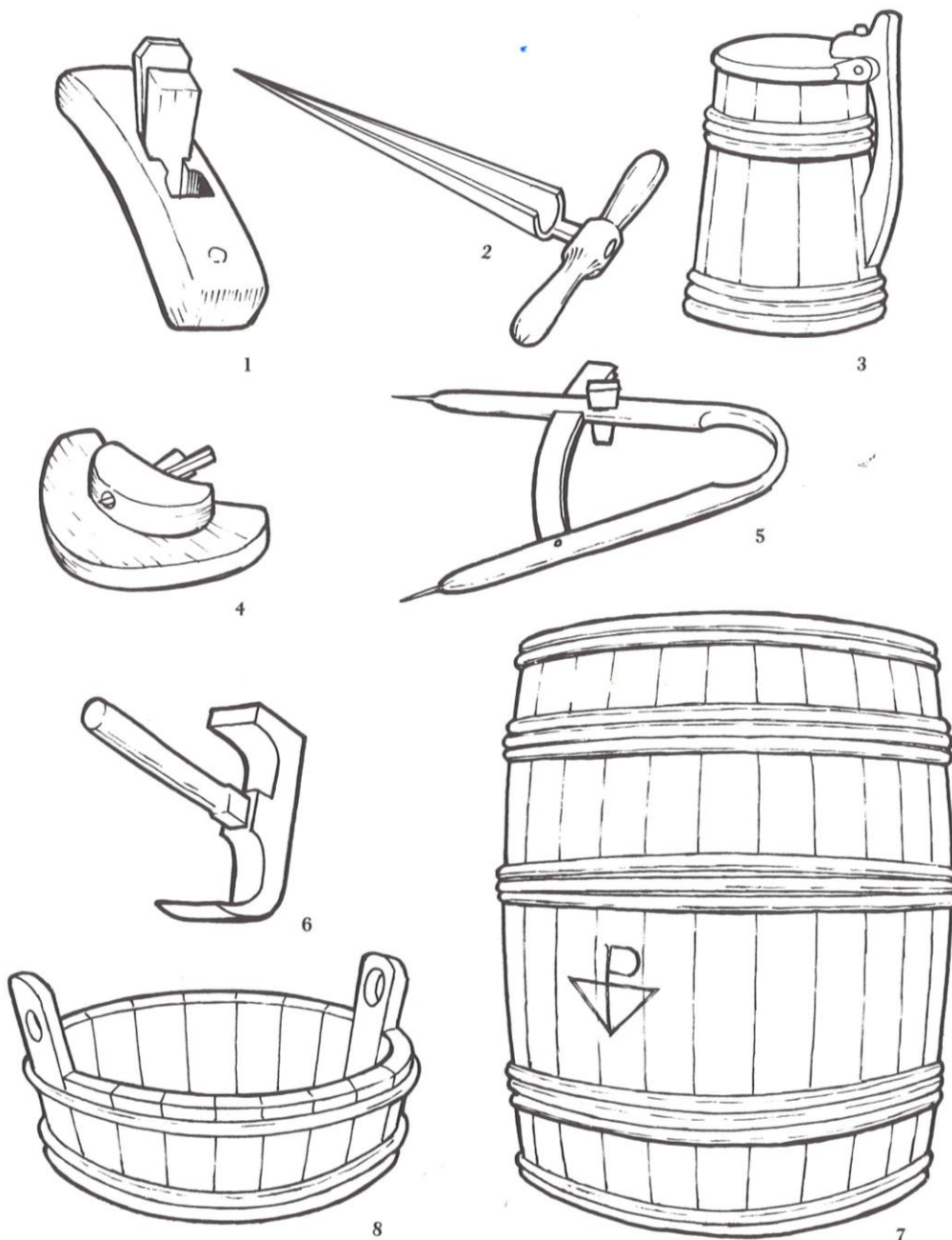
**13. FARRIERS; 1785.** The farrier shod horses and oxen with iron shoes made at his own forge. He also performed many of the functions of the modern veterinarian. He would inspect an animal's feet and legs, looking for an injury or cracked hooves. The farrier used a "twitch" to discipline a refractory animal and make it submit to shoeing. The two farriers in this picture are doing a job often performed by one man alone. The forge and bellows can be seen in the background. The farrier's functions overlapped with those of the blacksmith.

*Above:* 1. pulling an old horseshoe 2. farrier's drawing knife 3. screw calks (fastened to winter shoes for working on ice) 4. twitch 5. horseshoe tongs 6. horseshoes 7. horse's hoof with finished shoe 8. farrier's set hammer 9. anvil 10. ox shoe.





**Cooper**

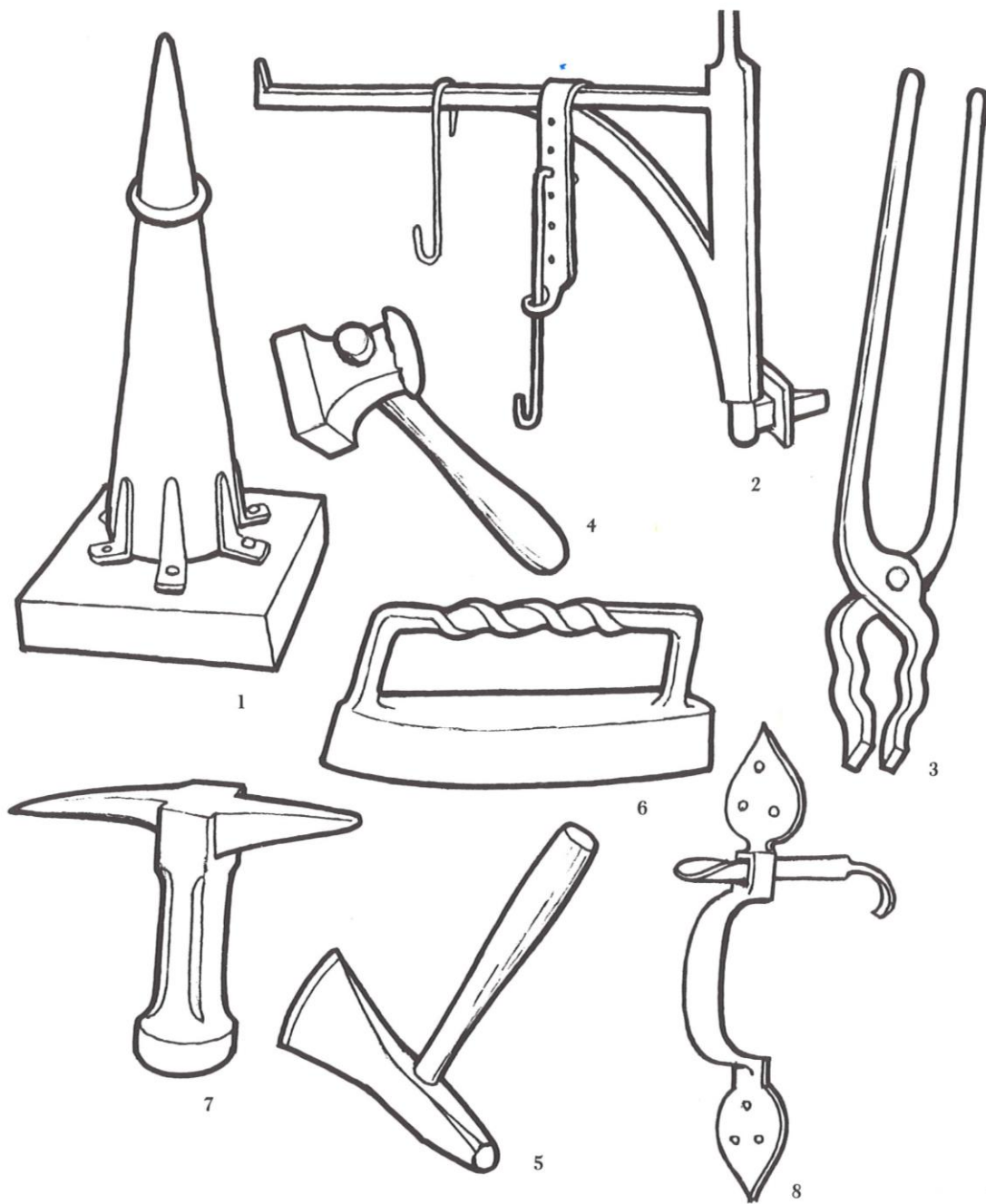


**17. COOPER, 1818.** Farmers, especially those in the South, needed millions of barrels per year to store and export crops and commodities such as flour, corn meal and molasses. This made coopering one of the most prevalent trades in pre- and post-revolutionary America. Mainly using oak, coopers made and mended barrels, kegs, buckets, tubs and tankards. There were "dry" barrels for dry goods and "wet" barrels for liquid items. The cooper seen here is assembling the staves of a barrel, preliminary to fastening the barrel together with hickory hoops. A cooper could make ten barrels per day by this method.

*Above:* 1. sun plane (with a curved surface) 2. pod auger 3. wooden tankard 4. croze (for cutting grooves) 5. compass 6. hand adze 7. barrel (1740) 8. keeler (1830).



**Blacksmith**



**21. BLACKSMITH, 1840.** Beginning in 1715, pig and bar iron were manufactured in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The establishment of this key industry, a great source of Yankee pride, was an important factor in enabling the colonies to become independent of England. These furnaces furnished raw materials for the blacksmith, who, in turn, provided iron tools for use by craftsmen and farmers. Indeed, the early blacksmith made everything that could be made of iron by hand: weapons, cooking utensils, horseshoes, cutlery, even padlocks. Eventually, many of these functions were taken over by more-specialized craftsmen such as locksmiths, cutlers and farriers; but even today, the all-purpose blacksmith can be seen in some rural communities.

*Above:* 1. cone mandrel (for making iron rings) 2. fireplace crane 3. pick-up tongs 4. flatter 5. hot set 6. flatiron (1840) 7. bickern (for shaping hot iron) 8. door latch.